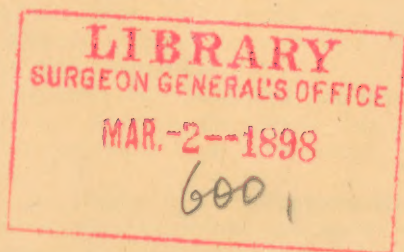


McGuire (H.)

Case of tuberculosis

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1897, 10

Case of Tuberculosis Cured by Cancrum Oris.

By HUNTER McGUIRE, M. D., LL. D.,
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Miss P., of Abingdon, Va., was brought to my private hospital, November 9th, 1895. She had a hacking cough, enlargement of the glands of the neck, and consolidation of the apex of one lung. I diagnosed phthisis pulmonalis, prescribed constitutional remedies, and advised her being taken to some more suitable climate for the winter.

Before she could make arrangements to leave the hospital she had a severe chill, followed by high fever and a very sore throat. In a few days she developed a typical case of noma, or cancrum oris. The disease attacked the left cheek and when the slough separated, an opening was left as large as a silver dollar, exposing the teeth and rendering feeding difficult. There was high fever, typhoidal delirium and great prostration.

The wound was cauterized and disinfected, and heroic measures used to feed and stimulate the patient, but the symptoms grew worse and little hope of recovery was given to the relatives.

Finally, as a last resort, I began the use of **Protonuclein**, giving the tablets internally and dusting the powder on the wound. An immediate improvement followed, and after a long and trying convalescence the patient was able to return home.

A year later she returned to the hospital to have a plastic operation done to lessen the deformity of the scar, and when she first entered my office I scarcely recognized the healthy, vigorous woman as my former tuberculous patient. The enlarged cervical glands had disappeared, her lungs were clear, her cough was gone. She had been cured of tuberculosis by the attack of cancrum oris. I have no explanation to offer for the result, but trust the clinical fact may prove of interest to the pathologist.

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